

# Treasures of the Chesapeake

135th AVMA Annual Convention: Baltimore, Maryland, July 25-29, 1998

## NEW OFFERING: SPECIAL TOUR DESIGNED FOR VETERINARIANS

### Government research facility tours

**P**ssst! Hey buddy, do you want some government information? *Inside* government information? Then meet me at the AVMA convention, because this year convention attendees can attend a once-in-a-lifetime tour of 2 top government research facilities. This tour has been customized for veterinarians and includes the FDA-CVM Office of Research's headquarters as well as the Agricultural Research Service and National Agricultural Library.



**FDA-CVM Office of Research Headquarters**—Located in Laurel, Md, this is a state-of-the-art facility where scientists protect the public health by supporting the safe use of veterinary drugs. The FDA-CVM Office of Research occupies 160 acres comprising laboratories, offices, animal buildings, and pastures. A professional guide will explain the instrumentation, animal-holding facilities, diagnostic suites, and feed-processing facilities used in these laboratories. Tour attendees will be able to observe researchers as they develop drug residue screening tests, conduct metabolism and drug depletion studies, and study the safety of the latest veterinary drugs.

**USDA Agricultural Research Service and National Agricultural Library**—The second stop on the tour will be Beltsville, Md, home of the Agricultural Research Service, the "research arm" of the USDA. This complex spans some 7,000 acres, making it the largest agricultural research facility in the world. Your tour will begin with a slide show at the Agricultural Research Service National Visitor Center. Then, a guide will explain the current studies in progress, acquaint you with some

of the experiments underway, and provide valuable background on the Dairy Herd Improvement Program. Next, you'll be taken to the granary, where feed rations for sheep, swine, poultry, and dairy and beef cattle are researched and processed. Finally, you'll be taken to the National Agricultural Library, the foremost agricultural library in the world. This facility is home to 48 *miles* of bookshelves and 2 million volumes (so bring your reading glasses). Tour attendees will also be familiarized with accessing the library's resources via the Internet.

This tour will take place the afternoon of Tuesday, July 28 at a cost of \$20 per person (including a boxed lunch).

The tentative departure time from the Baltimore Convention Center is 11:30 AM and the tentative return time to the Baltimore Convention Center is 5:00 PM. Final details and sign-up information will be available at the tour desk in the registration area of the Pratt Street lobby of the Baltimore Convention Center. The tour is limited to 40 participants so, please, register early!

Current convention program information and registration forms are available on the AVMA's web site at <http://www.avma.org>. All registration forms can be printed from this site.